

Faith and Funnies

A newsletter from Faithful Friends KY

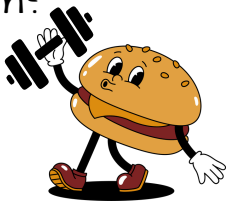
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Laugh a Little...



Why did the hamburger go to the gym?
He wanted better buns!



I had a hen who could count her own eggs.
She was a mathemachicken!



Why should you knock before opening the refrigerator door?
Because there might be a salad dressing!



I saw a man standing on one leg at the bank.
Confused, I asked him what he was doing. He replied, "I'm checking my balance."



This Month in History

January 17, 1945 - During World War II, Warsaw, Poland, was liberated by Soviet Russian troops.

January 24, 1972 - Japanese soldier Shoichi Yokoi was discovered on Guam after he had spent 28 years hiding out in the jungle not knowing World War II had long since ended.

January 27, 1945 - The Russian Army liberated Auschwitz death camp near Krakow in Poland, where the Nazis had systematically murdered an estimated 2,000,000 persons, including 1,500,000 Jews.

January 27, 1967 - Three American astronauts were killed as a fire erupted inside Apollo 1 during a launch simulation test at Cape Kennedy, Florida.

A cheerful heart is good medicine...Proverbs 17:22

I Wonder As I Wander

written by Marla Carter

We've had some frigid weather since Christmas. We had snow, followed by ice, followed by more snow, and it covered the ground here in Kentucky longer than normal because it was so cold. I love how quiet the world seems when it's covered in a blanket of snow. There were several clear nights that, as I took the dogs outside to do their business, I wished it weren't quite so chilly just so I could stay out longer and enjoy the quiet. The stars were shining brightly and the moon sent a soft glow over the surface of the snow. The icy trees would catch the light of the moon and twinkle like diamonds. The only noise was my feet crunching along as I walked. I've always loved the haunting melody of the song "I Wonder As I Wander," and in the silence under the stars, my heart remembered the words and felt the invitation of the quiet, crisp night to wonder and ponder the love of Christ.

"I wonder as I wander out under the stars, how Jesus the Savior did come for to die..."

I wondered again about what Mary might have sung to the baby Jesus, and I started thinking about all the songs I sang to my babies. A teacher at heart, I naturally sang songs about the days of the week, the months of the year, counting songs, and the alphabet song. Then there were lullabies. These were songs of faith that I sang while rocking my babies to sleep. I sang children's church songs, hymns, praise choruses, anything that entered my head and heart. The songs about counting or days of the week were teaching songs, songs meant to help foster language and the learning of concepts or skills. The songs I chose for lullabies were songs that introduced my babies to their Creator because I wanted them to know Him.

Looking back, it was as though I was singing His love over them. Every word, every melody, every note, carried with it not only my love for them, but also an even greater, more sustaining, more fulfilling, deeper love—the love of God. I was draping my babies with the banner of God’s love. Song of Solomon 2:4 says, “he brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love.” A banner is something that identifies and unites a particular group of people. Singing to my children about God was not only a way to teach them about Him, it was an act of extending God’s banner over them, to proclaim, “You belong to God. May you follow Him all the days of your life.”

The prophet Zephaniah tells us, “The LORD your God is with you, He is mighty to save. **He will take great delight in you, He will quiet you with His love,** He will rejoice over you with singing.” (Zeph. 2:17) The words that the Holy Spirit inspired Zephaniah to use are interesting as they reveal something of God’s character. “He will quiet you with His love” makes me think back to those moments when I sang to my babies, rocking them to sleep. God is our Father who tenderly wraps us in His love to quiet us, to bring peace to our ever racing minds and often anxious hearts.

That the Lord of the universe would delight in me is a great source of wonder. Have you considered that God delights in you? It’s not something we can give a quick thought to and move on. We have to ponder it, store it in our hearts, and sit with it for a while. Maybe a long while. That requires us to slow down, to stop hurrying to the next thing on our schedule or rushing to our next destination. When you wander, you don’t have a specific destination in mind. You give yourself time to roam, explore, and wonder.

Let’s do more of that this year. Let’s wonder about the love of God.

WINTER

word search

Can you find all the words related to winter?

z	v	r	y	e	n	x	w	t	y	x	p	v	e	s
y	x	a	e	v	x	i	s	a	e	b	f	w	w	e
s	n	e	t	t	i	m	u	f	s	y	o	e	n	o
k	h	b	w	i	h	s	x	g	e	m	a	o	c	m
l	p	r	u	e	v	r	n	a	n	t	q	l	t	c
i	i	a	d	x	m	f	r	o	e	e	j	s	r	s
s	f	l	g	b	f	m	s	r	w	n	p	e	f	i
n	d	o	l	i	u	l	f	m	f	f	o	y	t	l
o	k	p	w	f	b	g	g	g	v	q	l	j	y	b
w	k	i	f	s	l	e	d	d	i	n	g	a	v	h
m	b	s	l	f	s	l	p	b	a	a	c	i	k	v
a	j	w	r	r	q	n	s	x	a	y	o	k	g	e
n	t	a	b	l	a	n	k	e	t	t	u	g	j	e
h	c	h	m	v	p	r	e	b	m	z	g	t	f	k
s	u	s	x	m	m	r	v	h	q	o	h	m	j	y

blanket

earmuffs

polar bear

snowflake

boots

mittens

scarf

snowman

cough

penguin

sledding

sweater